

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A vending machine employing an electronic control unit which may be easily programmed initially with predefined angles of a cradle corresponding to existing products or vended items. The control unit has
5 the option of setting custom vending angles with a new, previously unknown product package is to be vended from the machine, allowing a user to rapidly set up the machine for a range of package types. Custom angle settings may be used when needed to avoid loading a new control program whenever a new package type becomes available.